The People's Korea

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Yugoslavian President To Visit Soon

Radovan Vlajkovic, President of the Presidency of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, will pay an official goodwill visit to the DPRK toward the end of March 1986, upon the invitation of President Kim Il Sung, reported the KCNA on March 19.

Premier Kang Greets Swedish PM

PYONGYANG March 15 (KCNA) – Premier Kang Song San sent a message of greetings to Ingvar Carlsson upon his appointment as Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Sweden.

Expressing the belief that the relations between the two countries would continue to favorably develop, the message wished him happiness as well as success in his responsible work for the country's prosperity and the well-being of his people.

5th SPA Session to Be Held

The Fifth Session of the Seventh Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK will be convened in Pyongyang on April 7, reported the official KCNA.

This was decided at a meeting of its standing committee held on March 17.

More F-16s to Be Assigned to Seoul

More American sophisticated F-16 fighters are planned to be assigned to the south Korean air force for actual warfare within this year, it was reported by The Nihon Keizai Shimbun on March 20.

The Japanese paper quoted Chon Du Hwan as saying that F-16's assignment which is to begin this year will reinforce its air force's capability quantitatively and qualitatively.

The American air force stationed in south Korea has already deployed the fighter planes, according to the same report.

Aerial Spying Numbers 24 Since War Game's Start

Aerial espionage of the U.S. forces against the DPRK has numbered as many as 24 cases since the Washington-Seoul military exercises Team Spirit 86 began on February 10, reported the official Korean Central News Agency on March 17.

In a latest spying move, an American "SR-71", a high-speed, high-altitude reconnaissance plane, infiltrated into the sky above the coastal waters south of Kangryong peninsula in the West Sea of the country at around 12 hours 8 minutes March 17 and stole deep into the sky above the territorial waters east of Kosong on the eastern coast at around 13 hours 51 minutes to commit espionage, the agency said.

Pyongyang Hopes for Improved Ties with Washington: Kim Yong Nam

Foreign Minister Kim Yong Nam expressed his hope for improved relations with the United States, saying, "it is natural for the governments of both countries to be concerned with improving relations."

"Such improvements are urgently needed," He said.

"It is true that we were once antagonists in a war – but does this mean that we should always remain antagonists? Yesterday was yesterday and today is today," stressed Mr. Kim Yong Nam who is concurrently a Vice Premier of the DPRK.

His remarks came in an interview with Professor Young C. Kim at George Washington University. Professor Kim conducted the interview in July 1985 in Pyongyang. **(See excerpts from the interview on page 2)**

In the interview which appeared in the Fall 1985 issue of Journal of Northeast Asian Studies published by the Sino-Soviet Institute recently, Foreign Minister Kim said that Pyongyang is willing to negotiate on any positive efforts to overcome barriers of distrust and suspicion and to build mutual confidence.

"We could, for example, exchange university sports teams and art troupes. Also, we will at any time and at any place negotiate economic exchanges, including trade," said the Foreign Minister.

The United States so far has not responded affirmatively to any proposals made by the DPRK, including the proposal for three-way talks.

He said that Pyongyang hopes that the U.S. will abandon its anachronistic policy of distrust and suspicion.

"We must come together – at whatever level and whatever place. We must sit down face to face. Only then can we really know what the other looks like," stressed Mr. Kim.

These remarks show that the DPRK is willing to end confrontation with the United States and wants to settle the Korean question through negotiations.

As to familiar assertions by Seoul and Washington that the north is preparing to invade the south and its intention is to communize the whole peninsula by force, the Foreign Minister said the assertions "dumbfound us."

"Just compare the population sizes of the north and south. The north only has a population of 18 million. . . . We do not intend to invade the south – and we lack the power to do it, besides. On numerous occasions, we have solemnly proclaimed to the world that we have no intention of invading the south," he said.

On Korea-U.S. relations, he said, "Everything depends upon the American attitude."

In the interview, except Pyongyang-Washington relations he talked about Pyongyang's relations with Beijing and Moscow and about the foreign policy conduct of the Workers' Party of Korea and the DPRK government as a whole.

Worker's Suicide Gives Impetus to Demonstrations

Another worker burnt himself to death in Seoul in protest against poor working conditions and for wage-hikes, giving further impetus to the labour movement in south Korea.

Pak Yong Jin, 27, a worker at Shinbun Precision Machine, staged a sit-in at a restaurant in the factory in Seoul on March 17 with his 20 other colleagues to demand an improvement of working conditions including a wage-hike and shorter working hours (from 9 hours to 8 hours) but the company authorities tried to disperse them with a fire extinguisher, refusing to their demands, the Asahi Shimbun, one of Japan's most influential papers reported from Seoul on March 21.

Mr. Pak, angered by this attitude of the company, set fire to his gasoline-soused body on the roof of the factory and burnt himself, the Asahi said.

He was sent to a hospital nearby soon but died on the morning of March 18.

Some 30 dissident figures, including chairman Mun Ik Hwan of the United Popular Movement for Democracy and Unification, on March 18 visited the hospital where Mr. Pak was hospitalized so as to conduct a fact-finding survey, but were forced to return by police, according to the Asahi.

Some 120 workers and students staged demonstrations and sit-ins separately in three places in Seoul on March 19 in connection with his suicide, calling for better working conditions.

Some 300 Korea University students also held an on-campus demonstration after they held a memorial service for Mr. Pak on March 20.

The powerful opposition party, New Korea Democratic Party, on March 19 issued a statement in connection with Mr. Pak's courageous action to demand: 1) a minimum wage system; 2) a stop to crackdown on the labour movement and release of the arrested workers; 3) guarantee of the three rights of labour.

"With the wage-hike season having come to its highest in south Korea and the student movement gaining further momentum as the new semester has begun, the moves of workers are drawing wider attention," the Asahi Shimbun added.

Movie Couple; Embezzler, Not Political "Exile"

The General Bureau of Film of the Ministry of Culture and Art of the DPRK on March 21 issued a statement concerning Shin Sang Ok and Choe Un Hui, following a Mar. 17 statement of the DPRK Embassy in Austria, saying that they disappeared, prompted by "the criminal motive to illegally misappropriate a large sum of money of our state ($2.3 million), not by any political motive," **(See text of the Mar. 21 statement on page 5)**

"Whether they go to the United States or to any other third country, forgetful of our friendliness and hospitality, it is a matter of their free will," said the statement and urged the Austrian authorities to "take a lawful measure to bar the usurpation of a state fund by an individual, freeze the money and return it to us."

It also demands that Washington "not defend their criminal attempt to usurp our state fund or commit such criminal act as handing them over to the south Korean puppets."

Chon's Party Has A Flimsy Foundation

Hong Kong-based weekly Far Eastern Economic Review came up with an article dealing with an apparent lack of deep-rooted popularity and centralized authorities of the Democratic Justice Party led by Chon Du Hwan, quoting an observer as saying, "The party, in spite of its imposing appearance, resembles a tree that has a trunk but neither roots nor branches."

Here are excerpts from the story which appeared in its Mar. 13 issue:

In a small commercial town 230 miles southwest of Seoul, 200 Democratic Justice Party (DJP) members stood shivering in the cold shouting hurrahs and applauding as party chairman Roh Tae Woo arrived on a visit.

But the crowd's enthusiasm dissipated soon after Roh stepped into the party's office. The welcomers disappeared as if they had finished performing an obligatory chore. The apparent lack of genuine spontaneity here demonstrates one key aspect of the DJP: its strength rests more on organisation and discipline from the top than on popular support.

This may not be all that surprising in view of the party's short history and the fact that the DJP was built hastily on the crumbling foundations of the Democratic Republican Party (DRP), led by the late president Park Chung Hee.

The DRP collapsed soon after Park was assassinated in October 1979, revealing how much its apparatus had depended on Park's leadership.

Like its predecessor, the DJP works on the principle of centralised authority with all major posts, from the top ones in Seoul down to those at the provincial level, in effect filled by appointment.

The running of the party's day-to-day operations has become slightly more relaxed under Roh's stewardship, but decision-making is still con-

(Continued on page 8, col. 1)

Interview with DPRK Vice Premier & Foreign Minister Kim Yong Nam (1)

Follow the first part of excerpts from Foreign Minister Kim Yong Nam's interview with Mr. Young C. Kim.

Mr. Young C. Kim is professor at George Washington University in the U.S.

He visited the DPRK last year. The interview was conducted by him in July 1985 in Pyongyang.

The interview appeared in the fall 1985 issue of Journal of Northeast Asian Studies published by the Institute for Sino-Soviet Studies recently.

Mr. Kim Yong Nam

North Korea-U.S. Relations

Q: Would you describe the policies you plan to pursue toward the United States?

A: Given the present situation of the Korean peninsula and the abnormal relationship between the U.S. and Korea, it is natural for the governments of both countries to be concerned with improving relations. Such improvements are urgently needed.

It is true that we were once antagonists in a war—but does this mean that we should always remain antagonists? Yesterday was yesterday and toady is today. The history of international relations shows us that peoples can move beyond the past to the future, indeed, that this is a ruling principle of human society. We all live in a rapidly changing international environment, and we must adapt our conduct to these historical trends. We do not wish to regard the U.S. as our eternal enemy because of the past war. We hope and think that the U.S. shares our sentiment.

As I said earlier, our diplomacy pursues the goals of independence, friendship, and peace. In view of these objectives, it is inappropriate for us to tolerate the present state of affairs between our two countries. On numerous occasions, we have made various proposals to the United States. First, we suggested U.S.-Korea talks, and more recently we called for a tripartite conference. Moreover, in consideration of the reality of U.S.-Korean relations, we also have been exploring the possibility of exchanges in such nonpolitical fields as athletics, academia, culture, and economics. There has been some discussion about American student/youth soccer, volleyball, and badminton teams visiting us—we are fully prepared to invite these teams, but no formal plans have been devised yet.

Not only have we initiated various proposals—we have also been striving to implement them. But for our sincere and earnest efforts, the visits of Congressman Solarz and scholars and journalists would not have been possible.

Despite our sincerity, the U.S. has yet to respond to our call for a tripartite conference—or to any of our other proposals. We have two proverbs that express our attitude. One says, "One has to bring two things together in order to decide which is longer and which is shorter." The other says, "Unless two hands clap against each other, no sound is produced." We continue to hope that the U.S. will abandon its anachronistic policy of distrust and suspicion, and that it will come to appreciate our sincerity and effort.

We must come together—at whatever level and whatever place. We must sit down face on face. Only then can we really know what the other looks like. We cannot hope to achieve any results if we continue to interpret each other's actions without the benefit of communication. Again, we are prepared to meet with the U.S. either in U.S.-Korea talks or in tripartite talks. We believe that the U.S. and Korea are the primary parties concerned with seeking a solution to the Korean problem. However, in proposing the tripartite conference, we fully acknowledge the American view that South Korea should be allowed to participate in whatever U.S.-Korea talks that might take place. Whether in bilateral or trilateral form, it is essential that our two countries come together to discuss our various problems.

We are willing to negotiate on any positive efforts to overcome barriers of distrust and suspicion and to build mutual confidence. We could, for example, exchange university sports teams and art troupes. Also, we will at any time and at any place negotiate economic exchanges, including trade. Everything depends upon the American attitude. If the U.S. is genuinely interested in peace and the peaceful reunification of Korea, the time has come and the circumstances are ripe for the U.S. to demonstrate its good-will and peaceful intentions.

From time to time, we hear the comments made by U.S. government leaders. On the one hand, they applaud progress in the North-South dialogue concerning economics and other areas. On the other hand, they insist that we are preparing to invade the South and that our intention is to communize all of Korea by force. These latter assertions dumbfound us.

Just compare the population sizes of the North and South. The North only has a population of 18 million. Exclude school children and women, and you'll find few young men. We do not intend to invade the South—and we lack the power to do it, besides. On numerous occasions, we have solemnly proclaimed to the world that we have no intention of invading the South.

We also hear the assertion that there is a military imbalance between the North and South and that the North is rapidly expanding its military capabilities. We can but wonder what is behind these assertions.

We also hear the argument that Soviet armed forces might appear in a reunified Korea. This is preposterous. Why would we invite foreign troops into our land? The 10-point program we enunciated in 1980 is quite explicit: what we envisage is a democratic, independent, and neutral state in which no foreign troops or bases would be allowed. During our 5,000-year history, our nation has sustained too many foreign aggressions.

Some circles in Japan are saying that if our country is reunified, the influence of the Soviets would extend to Pusan, posing a serious threat to the security of Japan. This view is clearly designed to impede national reconciliation and reunification. It means to dampen our patriotic and nationalistic endeavor.

Last fall, in his speech at the UN, President Reagan called for confidence-building measures. Immediately thereafter, during interviews with the *Washington Post* and the *New York Times*, I made it clear that we would be willing to discuss confidence-building measures between the U.S. and Korea at a tripartite conference. While my proposal was favorably received by the American people at large, I have yet to hear from official circles. At least to maintain its international prestige, the U.S. must respond to our proposals. Why is the U.S. afraid of our small country?

Q: Would you comment on means to bring about the reunification of Korea?

A: Our nation suffered under Japanese imperialism for 36 years. In the 40 years since then, we have suffered from the artificial division that external forces have imposed on our country. No nation on earth could tolerate our present condition—especially when our nation's 5,000-year history is considered. Some foreign analysts compared the mechanics of Korean national reunification with those of Germany. They make this comparison because they are not aware of Korea's long history and strong national consciousness. In the case of Germany, although the country is divided, it is clearly a multinational society and both sides appear to wish to abide by the present arrangement. Besides, the circumstances that led to the division of Germany differ vastly from those that led to the division of Korea. Germany initiated the Second World War, participated in it, and was defeated in it. Germany was therefore a defeated country when it was divided. Korea was a colony when it was liberated. It was not a participant in the war and was thus not a defeated country. Following its own defeat in the war, Germany was divided by an international agreement, whereas Korea was divided artificially by external forces.

Our nation survived for over 5,000 years as a single nation, and we therefore retain strong nationalistic feelings. Our distinctive national characteristic—in comparison with other nations, especially multiracial ones—is our dignity, pride, and sagacity as a single nationality. We have existed on this land for 5,000 years as a single nation with a single culture, a single custom, and a single morality. With great pride, we can say that even in the face of many obstacles, our desire and determination to achieve national reunification remain powerful. This intense desire and determination is shared by all Koreans, whether they live in the North, the South, or overseas. Those foreigners who are well acquainted with our history and the characteristics of our nation appreciate our yearning for and the necessity of unification. The artificial obstacles that lie in the path toward reunification will never be able to stifle the nationalistic desires of all Koreans. We firmly believe this, and this desire is precisely what I have called the distinctive, innate characteristics of our people.

If we do not do something to achieve the union of our race and the unification of our country, the result will be the tragedy of permanent division. This would be a great shame for our nation. If we do not unify the country within one generation, if we allow this division to continue, we will be committing a great crime against our posterity.

Awake or asleep, we constantly think of the need for national reconciliation, harmony, and reunification. This most urgent and pressing task faces our people everywhere. In view of the 40 years that have lapsed since the division, as well as the differing ideologies and systems of the North and South, it would be difficult to achieve reunification at once. As there has been no exchange of visitors or even letters, much distrust and many misunderstandings have been produced. We must eradicate misunderstandings and distrust in order to achieve national reconciliation and harmony. This is why we have long advocated the need for dialogue, negotiation, and contacts. The more frequently we meet to exchange views, the better we will understand each other. Even if it is impossible to unify our systems at once, we want at least to achieve the unification of our nation, our race. And despite our different systems, we hope that our contacts and interchanges will result in cooperative efforts that will demonstrate the intelligence and dignity of the Korean people—all this for the sake of the prosperity of our fatherland and the happiness of our people.

This, then, is the pure and crystal-clear aspiration of our people. There are many examples of families that live in harmony despite the different ideas of the family members. There is no reason why the members of our single nationality cannot achieve reconciliation and live in peace—even though we have long live under different systems. The achievement of the unity and solidarity of our people would reduce the misfortune and suffering created in our nation by the division of our fatherland, and would naturally brighten the prospects for the reunification of the fatherland.

Because we truly feel patriotism and the spirit of the nation, we must do our best to achieve the reconciliation, solidarity, and unification of our people. It is with this in mind that we propose the establishment of a confederate state. I will not give a detailed explanation of the proposed Confederate Republic of *Koryo* here. To describe our proposal briefly, it envisages the establishment of one confederate state within which the different ideologies and systems would remain intact in the two parts of Korea. This confederate state would be completely independent, democratic, neutral, and non-aligned.

(To be continued)

Photo shows the scene of the emotional reunion by a dispersed Korean family in Pyongyang and Seoul last year.

The DPRK government constantly has made all efforts to reunify the country since it was divided into two.

North Koreans crossed the Military Demarcation Line, across the thick wall of its 40-year division, as the relief goods brought to south Korea for its flood victims in 1984. It resulted in frequent north-south contacts for the reunification in all spheres.

EDITORIAL

Nuclear-Free Peace Zone For Asia

This is the United Nation's International Year of Peace, and it is hoped that during this year the anti-nuclear and anti-war movements will gather momentum world-wide.

It is a desire of mankind to stop the nuclear arms race and to prevent nuclear war from ever occurring on earth or in space. Man's highest aspiration should be the complete disarmament and abolition of nuclear weapons so that a free and peaceful world can be built.

Last December, at the Geneva Summit, Russian and American leaders agreed to refrain from war and to continue arms control talks. However, the trend since then has been contrary to the spirit of accord reached in Geneva.

No effort has been made to reduce the high numbers of nuclear weapons. Total disarmament and a nuclear free, peaceful world will only be realized through the united efforts of the people.

The DPRK and its people are always in the forefront of anti-nuclear campaigns, conducted throughout the world, and we play a prominent part in various peace movements.

Last week, the Workers' Party of Korea and the DPRK celebrated the 5th anniversary of a joint declaration made with the Japanese Socialist Party, which expressed their desire to turn Northeast Asia into a nuclear free peace zone. This is to be achieved by removing all nuclear weapons, withdrawing all foreign military bases and troops, dissolving the existing military block and preventing the formation of new military alliances.

The joint declaration reflected the solidarity felt by the Korean and Japanese people, who both desire a peaceful and secure future for Asia and the world. Peace-loving people of the world must understand that this declaration was an anti-war declaration, in favor of global peace.

Although the declaration was made 5 years ago its reasonable demands have not been heeded. The U.S. has totally ignored the wishes of the Korean and Japanese people and has turned south Korea into a tinderbox, with one of the heaviest concentrations of nuclear weapons on the planet.

U.S. warships and fighter-bombers with a nuclear capacity regularly land on Japanese and south Korean soil, as this area of Northeast Asia is America's frontline against the Soviet Union. Therefore, in this sphere, America is constantly trying to spread its destructive capacity over as wide an area as possible.

The "Team Spirit 86" joint military exercise is a nuclear war rehearsal against the DPRK. The situation is deteriorating in Asia and the Pacific region due to the aggressive and provocative actions of the U.S. and its allies. There is a feeling that nuclear war could break out at anytime in Korea.

This tense and serious situation demands that all Asian people make every effort to secure the introduction and adoption of the declaration's proposals before it is too late.

Throughout the American sphere of influence the peace and anti-nuclear movements are growing in strength and numbers. Even in America itself people are beginning to rebel against Reagan's nuclear policy.

On the continent of Europe anti-nuclear and anti-American demonstrations are, for the first time, gathering enough momentum to become a viable political force for change.

Similarly, the anti-nuclear/anti-war movement in south Korea is continuing to grow in spite of efforts to suppress it.

The Korean people, on the 5th anniversary of the declaration for a nuclear free peace zone in Northeast Asia, and in the International Year of Peace, appeals to all peace-loving forces in the world to increase their efforts for total nuclear disarmament and the destruction of these weapons which threaten the very existence of mankind.

Photo Collection

'Hello Pyongyang!'

The following photos were taken by Mr. Kuno Chuji, an ex-Minister of Posts and Telecommunications from Japan.

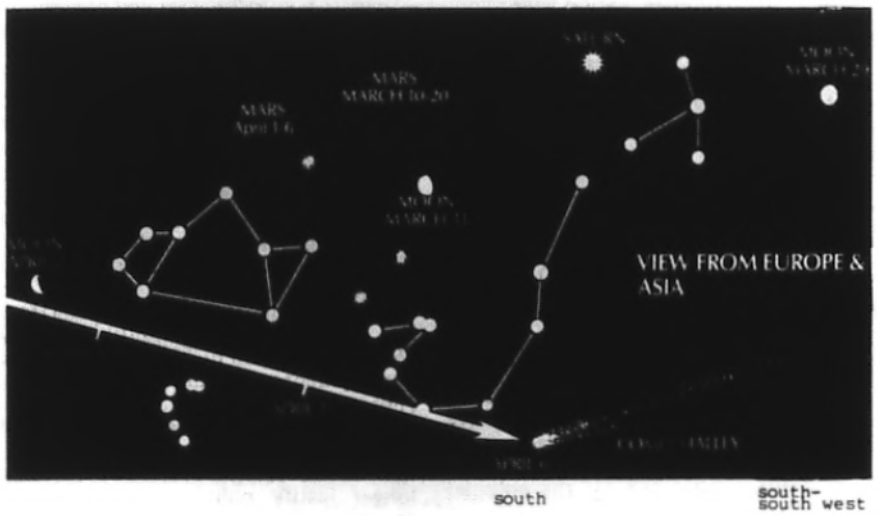
He visited the DPRK and subsequently has published a photo collection in celebration of the 40th anniversary of the WPK (October 10, 1985).

The March 15 issue of The People's Korea introduced a few photos from his collection. Here are a few more.

▶
A waitress in an open-air restaurant

▼
Foreign tourists visiting Mt. Kumgang

Halley's Comet Will Appear in the DPRK Sky in May



This year Halley's comet is coming close to the earth for the first time in 76 years, and as a result the DPRK has become active in a project to observe it.

The comet was viewed from the south of the DPRK on Feb. 22 as it soared across the horizon, 70 degrees to the east.

At that time Pyongyangites could only see the tail part of the comet. However, according to a recent issue of "Rodong Sinmun (organ of the CC of the WPK)," in the DPRK, the best views of the comet will be during May-June, when the comet will be at its highest point in the southeastern sky. Its peak will be around 8 p.m. on May 10.

Its brightest portion, called the head, is slightly larger than a star and might be a little elongated. The tail, which becomes fainter the farther it is from the head, will arc gracefully upward.

It will be moving slowly, changing its position slightly in relation to stars in the sky, night by night.

Female students enjoying outside games

Opposition Groups Get Together for Democracy

Fiercer struggles are expected in south Korea as opposition forces formed a united front on March 17 to push their demands for more democracy including a constitutional amendment.

It was the first attempt to unite practically all main opposition and dissident movements against dictator Chon Du Hwan junta since he came to power over thousands of corpses in the 1980 Kwangju Uprising.

Eight leaders representing five major political and religious activist groups met at a three-hour luncheon and set up a body called the National Liaison Organization for Democratization, according to an AP report from Seoul.

Among these attending were dissidents Kim Dae Jung and Kim Yong Sam, Li Min U, head of the largest opposition New Korea Democratic Party and the Rev. Moon Ik Hwan, a militant civil rights activist.

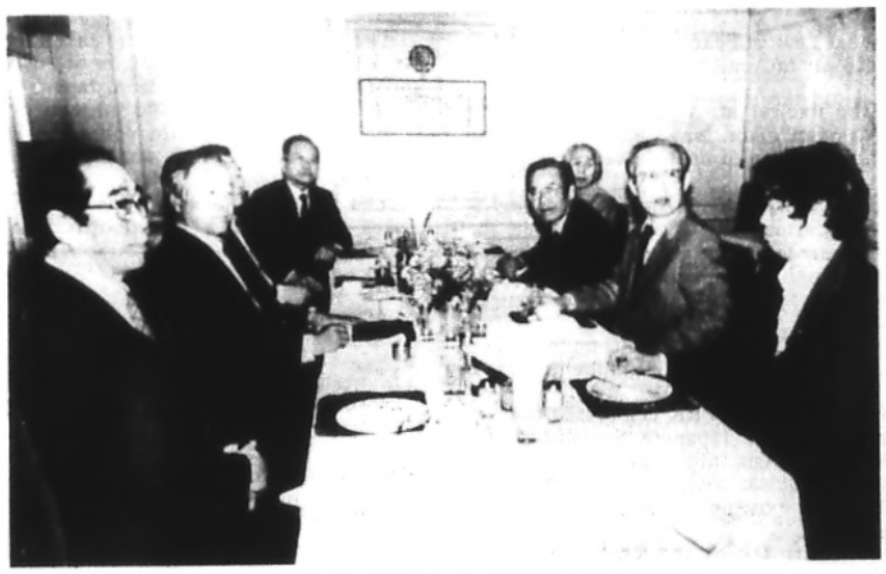
The organizations represented were the NKDP, the Council for the Promotion of Democracy, co-chaired by the two Kims, the United Minjung (people) Movement for Democracy and Unification, headed by Moon, which embraces 19 civil rights organizations, the National Council of Churches in Korea, headed by the Rev. Pak Hyong Gyu, which has a membership of about 4 million and the Korean Catholic Council for Justice and Peace.

The NCC, comprising six major denominations, joined the petition movement after Roman Catholic Cardinal Stephen Kim Su Hwan on March 9 endorsed the campaign.

Those participating in the March 17 meeting agreed to have all groups in the liaison body actively participate in provincial petition drives launched by the NKDP.

The five groups also agreed to meet together once or twice a month.

They made public a joint statement against Japanese crown prince's south Korean visit planned for coming October.



On March 17, 8 leaders representing 5 major political and religious activist groups, had a three-hour luncheon to demand constitutional amendment, setting up a body called the NLO to further this end. Among those attending were dissidents Kim Dae Jung, Kim Yong Sam, Li Min U and Rev. Moon Ik Hwan.

As a major reason of their opposition to the visit, it pointed out that Japan has been supporting the dictatorial regime in Seoul, thereby playing a role in obstructing the democratization of south Korea.

The groups generally had been working independently in seeking reforms.

Spearheaded by the NKDP, a nationwide petition campaign has been under way to collect 10 million signatures by yearned to support demands for revising the "constitution" enacted by Chon junta in 1980.

The major change would provide for direct, popular election of the president instead of the electoral college system now in place.

Many in south Korea believe that the indirect system would give Chon the means to choose his successor.

A source at the luncheon session said the participants opposed having students join the petition campaign, according to an AP report.

President Li Min U reportedly said he did not want to see "further sacrifices" among the students because of political movements.

The opposition says more than 200 students have been jailed this year alone in connection with anti-"government" struggles, including the constitutional revision movement.

S. Korean Privileged Elite Engrossed in Property Purchase Abroad

According to a New Korea Times report, several pieces of information have recently come to light revealing that south Korea's strongman Chon Du Hwan and his privileged elite have been making plans to flee the country in case of emergency.

It has been revealed that members of south Korea's privileged elite have purchased deluxe mansions and commercial real estate in the U.S. and Canada.

In New Jersey alone more than 100 deluxe mansions have been purchased by these south Koreans; each costing more than $300,000.

Large amounts of money have also been deposited by these people abroad.

Suppression on Dissidents

South Korean authorities on March 19 passed prison terms up to seven years on Ho In Hoe, chairman of the Sammin Struggle Committee of the General Student Council, and four other students of Korea University on charges of violation of the "national security law", according to a radio report from Seoul.

They were sentenced to prison terms after they were arrested on charges of involvement in the "case of the Sammin Struggle Committee" and put to all sorts of torture and persecution.

On the same day, the authorities detained Cho Chang Hwan and Yun Bong Ro, workers of the Sinhung Precision Company in Seoul, on charges of violation of the "law on assembly and demonstration" because they had participated in a sit-in for wage hike and betterment of labour conditions.

Rim Chae Jong, chief of the policy planning board of the Federation of the Popular Movement for Democracy and Unification, Kim Jong Sun, chairman of the Kangjin Christian Peasants Association in Kangjin county, South Cholla Province, and two other persons were also arrested by invoking a fascist evil law and referred them to "summary trial" to be detained.

Weathering the Opposition: FEER (2)

(Continued from the previous issue)

Kim Young Sam's recent return to politics as NKDP adviser has had the effect of stiffening its political muscle, ruling out chances of the NKDP accepting a moderate compromise that would allow Chun to install another military figure as his successor.

Suspicion of the DJP's long-term political goals stems from the opposition's deep mistrust of the military, members of which, the opposition believes, seek to dominate the party.

Five years after civilian politics has taken hold in the country, the DJP is still known as "yuk-pob-dang" – an expression coined by DJP members but which has since become a pejorative – made from the words *yuk* for *Yuksa*, the Korean Military Academy (KMA), and *pob* for *pobdae*, the Law College of Seoul National University, and *dang* meaning party. The word is in reference to the coalition of 21 KMA and 27 Law College graduates who make up a large bloc of the party's legislative roster.

While members of this coalition control most party committes, key posts such as party chairman and secretary-general, who is charged with funding and organisation, and head of the recently upgraded office of National Policy Coordination, are held, respectively, by Roh Tae Woo, Chong Sun Dok and Park Joon Byung – all retired generals with KMA backgrounds. They compose what the press here calls the "KMA troika" system, running the DJP on a day-to-day basis.

Last year's campaign charge by the oppoisition that the DJP is the military establishment's political arm has encouraged a little more intra-party democracy and somewhat freer internal debate, but on the whole the party remains far from shedding its military colour.

When DJP members with backgrounds in the National Police, the KCIA and similar government departments are counted, the number of ruling party politicians with non-civilian backgrounds rises even higher.

Five years after civilian politics has taken hold in the country, the DJP is still known as "yuk-pob-dang" – an expression coined by DJP members but which has since become a pejorative – made from the words yuk for Yuksa, the Korean Military Academy (KMA), and pob for pobdae, the Law College of Seoul National University, and dang meaning party.

As in the military, decision-making is at the top, and policy is carried out in a disciplined manner, decision-making by consensus is not the rule. For example, a few moderate DJP members who last year opposed Chun's Campus Stabilisation Bill, which included a provision for sending recalcitrant student dissidents to "ideological reorientation camps," were removed from important party positions last August.

Chun's continued preference for four-year KMA graduates, starting with those from his own class of 1955, is inevitably linked with the process which resulted in him coming to power.

He had relied heavily on the support of a new generation of army officers trained by the South Korean Government after the Korean War. This sets these younger officers apart from older ones, who were first trained by Japan during the colonial period and later went through a short retraining programme at the KMA.

The KMA's Class 11, from which Chun, Roh, Defence Minister Lee Ki Baek and recently retired army chief of staff Chong Ho Yong hailed, was the first "pure-breed" officer candidate class chosen by national examination.

This and subsequent classes have carved out an important historical niche by identifying themselves with Korean nationalism, untainted by the colonial past under Japan.

Hence, Chun's emphasis on "national integrity" as one of the DJP's five guiding ideological principles (the others are: democracy, justice, reunification and welfare). Chun and his supporters in this vein regard themselves as upholding the country's national legitimacy, which they believe entitles them to carry on the mission of "reforming" the nation.

The mission sometimes translates into a dogmatic stand, with the DJP leadership tending to regard all civilian, especially opposition, politicians as little more than a bunch of venal, egotistical, divisive and myopic self-seekers who sometimes stoop to street violence to seize power in the name of "the People" and "democracy." During the initial phase of his rise to power in 1981, Chun banned from active politics more than 500 "old-time politicians," including the two oppositionist Kims - blaming them for all post-Park political "chaos."

A massive outpouring of support for these officially discredited politicians during the 1985 general election shook the DJP's former military men. The emotional chord struck among the voters by the outspoken NKDP, organised just a few weeks before the polling and strongly critical of the military-style government, sobered the ruling party's former generals. The DJP emerged from the election with reduced support compared with that of 1981, despite the big role played by money and organisational skills - both of which it had in abundance.

"One of the lessons we drew [from the election] was that until the early 1980s, it was still possible for economic development to dominate political issues, [but not now]," said Lee Jong Chan, a DJP moderate who ran in the election from a key district in Seoul. In effect, he was conceding that the DJP could no longer justify political restrictions on the grounds that they were necessary for economic development.

The contrast between the country's economic progress and what the opposition views as its political stagnation is likely to become more striking as Chun nears the end of his term.

The recent collapse of the Marcos regime in the Philippines under a wave of popular and church support for opposition candidate (now President) Corazon Aquino has inspired the opposition movement here, especially tempting the major Christian churches

(Continued on page 5)

200 Catholics Demonstrate For Constitution Revision

Some 200 Catholic church followers staged an anti-"government" demonstration on March 9 in Seoul, demanding constitutional change and better working conditions, following a Mass, ending a nine-day prayer period, according to the Korea Times dated March 11.

The protesters distributed leaflets in which they called for the scrapping of the constitution and guarantee of a minimum wage and better working conditions during the 20-minute demonstration.

Police took away Kim Kyong Bin, student of Soongjun University for inquiry.

Catholic churches had been holding daily prayer meetings nationwide since March 1, "expressing concern for serious political and social situation."

Meanwhile, the National Council of Churches on March 17 named more than 1,000 clergymen who had joined in the signature campaign for constitutional change, according to a foreign press report from Seoul.

The pan-Christian committee has been formed to "demand a revised democratic constitution", declared committee chairman Cho Nam Gi at a press conference where he made public the afore-said fact.

It was made known at the press conference that over 100 Catholic priests and an estimated 2,000 lay people had also joined in the campaign.

Saying that the Korean Catholic Council for Justice and Peace had demanded a free press and the release of 1,000 political prisoners, foreign dispatches reported that the council had said the south Korean churches "should take lessons from the role of the Catholic church in last month's overthrow of Philippine dictator Marcos."

Sixteen Students Occupy Federation of Korean Industries Building

Sixteen students from 6 universities in Seoul on March 18 occupied the office of the "Federation of Korean Industries" in downtown Seoul, shouting anti-"government" slogans including "Punish comprador financial groups," the Mainichi Shimbun reported on March 19.

They were identified as the students affiliated with the nation-wide militant General Student Council and from major private universities in Seoul including Korea, Yonsei, Sung Kyun Kwan, Sogang and Ewha Women's.

After occupying the office in a moment, they smashed windows and scattered leaflets entitled a "Letter to 8 million workers."

They also demanded in the leaflets the repeal of the present "constitution" and improvement of working conditions.

Before the police rushed into the building they set up a barricade with chairs and desks.

But the police stormed into the barricaded building to crack down upon them and arrested all the students.

Marching for Chon's Resignation

University students march in Seoul as part of a demonstration to demand the resignation of Chon Du Hwan. The students call the Korean "president" a military dictator and want free democratic elections in south Korea. (Reuter)

(Continued from page 4)

to raise their voices once again on human rights and other political issues. University students, also stirred by events in the Philippines, are returning to campuses from a mid-year break. Traditionally, students here begin gearing up for their annual anti-government protests, usually held in the spring, about this time of year.

In terms of timing, the clash on the constitutional front could not have come at a worse moment for the DJP, as the opposition struggle is unfolding against the backdrop of the Asian Games, to be held here this year, and during preparations for the 1988 Olympics. These events focus worldwide attention on the country - and on the government and party which rule it.

And in the period between these events - between March and September 1987 - the party must hold a national convention to pick Chun's successor.

How the DJP copes with the next round of confrontation with the NKDP-led opposition will have far-reaching implications for South Korea's long-term political future. More and more urbanised people are feeling nostalgic about the last presidential election 15 years ago, when opposition candidate Kim Dae Jung won 46% of the vote. Kim is banned from politics, and the government could return him to jail to serve the remainder of a sentence for sedition.

(Concluded)

Couple's "Defection", Not Suitable Word:

-Statement of DPRK General Film Bureau-

PYONGYANG March 21 (KCNA)

The General Bureau of Film of the Ministry of Culture and Art of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea issued the following statement on March 21.

Shin Sang Ok and Choe Un Hui who had closely cooperated with us in cinematography for years disappeared in Vienna, Austria, on March 13, 1986.

On March 17, the U.S. Embassy in Austria announced that they came there and sought "assistance" and the U.S. authorities were "giving assistance" to them.

The U.S. State Department made an announcement to the same effect next day.

In this connection, the newspapers and news agencies of the United States and other western countries are making quite a noise about the "seeking asylum" and "defection" of Shin Sang Ok and Choe Un Hui.

As the Embassy of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in Austria made clear in its statement March 17, their disappearance after going to the U.S. embassy cannot be regarded as "seeking asylum".

They had been in exile after leaving south Korea long ago.

They had direct links with our Republic, too, and freely engaged themselves in cinematographic activities under the name of the Shin Films.

While active with their head office in Austria and their branch office in Hungary, enjoying our energetic support, they freely traveled to socialist countries and other countries of the world including Britain, West Germany and France, without subjecting to any restriction.

What sort of "seeking asylum" could there be for them who were active, freely traveling many countries of the world. The fact itself that they freely entered Vienna, Austria, from Hungary, on March 12, is more than enough to prove that they were always guaranteed freedom in their activity.

So "defection" is not a suitable word either.

Then, why Shin Sang Ok and Choe Un Hui suddenly disappeared by going to the U.S. Embassy and requested "assistance"?

They were promoted, as has been made plain enough to the world, by the criminal motive to illegally misappropriate a large sum of money of our state, not by any political motive.

On the next day of his arrival in Vienna, Shin Sang Ok went to the America Bank there, changed his already-registered signature in the account of his name and requested the bank to issue money only by the newly registered signature in the future.

He disappeared that very day.

As for the money deposited in the account of Shin Sang Ok's name at the America Bank, it is unquestionably our state fund.

Some time ago, Shin Sang Ok decided to sign, on behalf of the Shin Films, a contract with the Hungarian "Ma Film Studio" for the co-production of a feature film "Jinghis Khan" and a contract with Algerian and Cuban film studios for the co-production of a film titled "Power and Plot" and requested us to send him 3 million dollars for the production of those films.

At his request, we remitted 2.3 million dollars to the account of Shin Sang Ok's name at the America Bank through the bank of our country in Austria on February 26.

This fund for film production could have been sent by stages, depending on the progress of the production of the films after the contracts were signed.

But we transferred the large amount of money to the account of his name in a lump.

Taking advantage of this, Shin Sang Ok changed the signature in the account for the purpose of misappropriating this huge amount of money and hurriedly fled to the embrace of the United States.

This eloquently proves that his flight to the U.S. Embassy is nothing but an act to usurp this large amount of money of our state.

We think nothing particular about the fact that Shin Sang Ok and Choe Un Hui ran away to the embrace of the United States, breaking off the good relations of cooperation with us.

Sympathetic with their lot, we had so far provided all conveniences at their request and accorded them hospitality overflowing with compatriotic sentiments.

Whether they go to the United States or to any other third country, forgetful of our friendliness and hospitality, it is a matter of their free will.

We do not care about it.

But we can never allow them to illegally misappropriate a large amount of our state fund.

We have already notified to the authorities of Austria where this incident occurred and requested them to take a lawful measure to bar the usurpation of a state fund by an individual, freeze the money and return it to us.

We express the expectation and belief that the law authorities of the Republic of Austria will give a just decision, fully taking into account our fair stand and hope in connection with the incident.

And we hope that the U.S. authorities will behave prudently not to commit a mistake by patronizing and hiding a non-political ordinary criminal, clearly understanding the criminal nature of Shin Sang Ok's request for "assistance".

According to foreign press reports, the south Korean puppets are now working viciously to take over Shin Sang Ok and Choe Un Hui in south Korea.

The aim of this plot of the south Korean puppets is self-evident.

The fact itself that Shin Sang Ok and Choe Un Hui sought "assistance" of the U.S. authorities, refusing to go back to south Korea, proves that fascist suppression prevails in south Korea.

Therefore, the south Korean puppets attempt to conceal and befog this at any cost.

If the U.S. authorities do such indiscreet act as transferring Shin Sang Ok and Choe Un Hui to the south Korean puppets, it will make things all the more serious.

This would mean that the U.S. authorities conspire with the south Korean puppets in hiding and patronaging criminals and, furthermore, aggravate the confrontation between the north and the south and throw a wet blanket over the resumption of north-south dialogue.

We strongly hold that if the U.S. authorities truly want to guarantee the basic human rights of Shin Sang Ok and Choe Un Hui, they must not defend their criminal attempt to usurp our state fund or commit such criminal act as handing them over to the south Korean puppets.

Looking for Roots of Japanese Culture *(1)*

—Visit to Koguryo Tumuluses with Mural Paintings—

At the end of last year, the Ikaruga Municipal Board of Education and the Nara Prefectural Kashihara Archaeological Research Institute disclosed that they had discovered two gilt bronze harnesses for a horse saddle and a stone coffin, which are presumed to have been transferred to Japan from the Korean Peninsula, while investigating the mid-sixth century Fujinoki Tumulus in Ikaruga, of Nara Pref., located in the southern part of the Japanese archipelago.

The institute, however, suddenly stopped its excavation of the tomb, announcing that the excavation would be resumed and the coffin would be opened in one year (at the end of 1986).

The unopened coffin has been drawing keen attention from the Japanese academic community as there is a strong possibility that Korean descendent from the Korean Peninsula might be buried in it.

Meanwhile, a Japanese specialist in the history of Japanese art who visited the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in November, 1985, expressed his opinion on the matter in connection with the Koguryo tumuluses with mural paintings.

Follows the first part of the two installments of his article:

(From the evening issue of Asahi Simbun dated on Feb. 4)

During two weeks from Nov. 12–26, 1985, I visited Pyongyang at the invitation of a scientists' association of the DPRK and made a tour of the mural paintings of Koguryo tumuluses, my long-cherished desire.

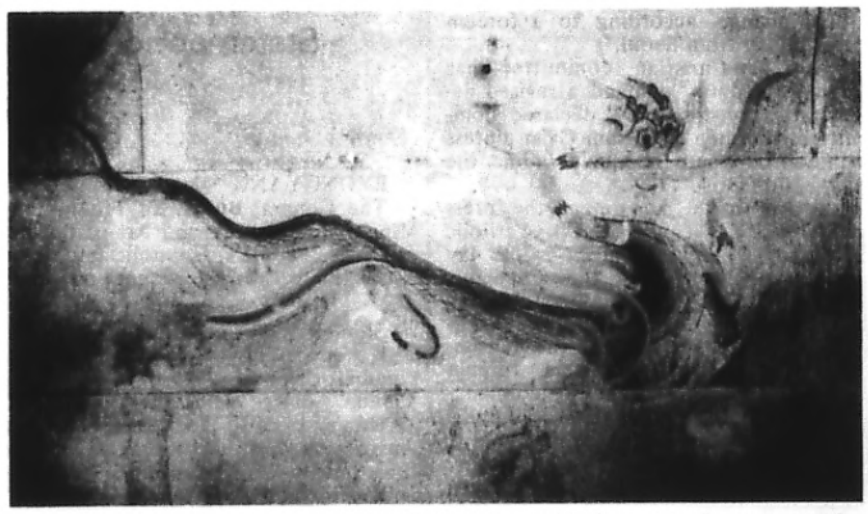
Most of the tumuluses with mural paintings around Pyongyang were closed because of early snow. But I was allowed to visit many of the tumuluses thanks to the special consideration paid by the DPRK Academy of Sciences.

I visited more than seven major tumuluses of the 4th–7th centuries such as the Anak Tumulus No. 3 (357 AC), which has an inscription on its wall describing the date of its establishment, the Tokhung-ri Tumulus (408), the Yaksu-ri Tumulus, the Chinpa-ri Tumulus, the Kangso Big Tumulus and Middle Tumulus.

This was, indeed, a great pleasure to me.

Also, I was greatly impressed to hear Prof. Chu Yong Hon say, "You are the first foreigner to visit this tumulus," while he was guiding me to the Susan-ri Tumulus in a jeep on a slushy road.

Prof. Chu is a leading authority on Koguryo tumuluses with mural paintings. He once visited Japan 13 years ago when the Takamatsuzuka Tumulus with mural paintings was discovered.



Picture of Chongryong in Kangso Big Tumulus — a black spot in the upper part of the picture is the trace of a hook.

Compared Only with China

The Takamatsuzuka Tumulus, when found in Asuka in the western Japan, was talked about mainly because of its colorful mural paintings. Despite the fact that the dresses of the women painted on the walls of the tumulus were unmistakably Korean in style, the mural paintings tended to be compared only with those of the Yongtaigongzhutangmu Tumulus (706) of China and not with those of Koguryo.

As one of the reasons for its negligence, they argued that the mural paintings of Koguryo are all on a plane and there is no such a painting as in the Takamatsuzuka Tumulus which painted people in depth, or one overlapping the other. But in the Susan-ri Tumulus, some women were painted behind other, with the hems of their long dresses crossing each other as in the way the mural paintings of the Takamatsuzuka Tumulus are painted.

Similar examples could be found in the Chinpa-ri Tumulus No. 4.

On the ceiling, which was bracketed to represent the shape of the sky, heavenly bodies are decorated with gold foil as in Takamatsuzuka Tumulus. The number of stars exceeds 100. These stars show how wrong it is to think that such a minute painting of stars as in the Takamatsuzuka painting, which has 28 heavenly bodies drawn in it can never be found in a Koguryo mural painting.

In this connection, traces of the Four Gods' paintings are seen on the peeled-off walls of the stone rooms of the Chinpa-ri Tumulus No. 4.

Above these paintings, clouds cross in the sky, lotus flowers and palmettes are in full bloom, making it appear like a paradise animated with colorful paintings.

Real Theme of the Tumulus

When the Takamatsuzuka Tumulus was excavated, because people talked so much about the "Beauties of the Asuka Period," that the portraits were regarded as the theme of the Takamatsuzuka mural paintings. The truth is, however, the theme of the tumulus is the Four Gods and the portraits painted beside them are mere side players. And the Four Gods as the main theme of Koguryo mural paintings began to play a principal role in the 7th century Kangso Big Tumulus and Middle Tumulus. All mural paintings so far had been painted on plaster and therefore were faded to come off. But the mural paintings of these two tumuluses were directly painted on well-polished marble walls and the gorgeous colors which have not yet faded because of their high adhesivity are amazing.

What is most admirable about the Four Gods' paintings in the Kangso Big and Middle Tumuluses is the truthful portrayal of life in the pictures of Chongryong (blue dragon), Paekho (white tiger), Chujak (red sparrow) and Hyonmu (tortoise and snake).

The perspective effect by the exquisite Unzen method (shading a drawing with pale Indian-ink) and the vividness of the pictures were enough to make me imagine the original of the Four Gods in the Takamatsuzuka Tumulus.

Profile of Uehara Kazu

Uehara Kazu was born in Taiwan in 1924 and graduated from Kyushu University. He's been making researches in the history of ancient art, making an on-the-spot survey, covering the Eurasian Continent to Japanese archipelago. He's known as an authority in the art of the Asuka and Hakuhou periods, Tamamushi-zushi, a small shrine in Horyu-ji Temple in Japan, and the Takamatsuzuka Tumulus. He's also known as the author of "On the White Road of Ikaruga – Essay on Prince Shotoku", "Research on Tamamushi-zushi", "Illusion of Troy – My Visit to Antiquity" and many other books.

Last fall, he visited and investigated the mural paintings of Koguryo tumuluses as the first Japanese scholar to visit them since World War II.

Same Traces of Hooks

What interested me was the fact that in the center of each of the Four Gods there were traces of rusted iron hooks from which apparently something was suspended. This surprised me because I had seen the same traces of iron hooks on the walls of the Fujinoki Tumulus in Ikaruga, in Japan, a few days before my departure. Naturally, therefore, my attention was attracted to the coincidence of these tumuluses with the Fujinoki Tumulus.

I knew that the Fujinoki Tumulus had been discussed very much in newspapers in Japan when I came back to Japan, particularly about the exquisite gilt bronze harnesses, the like which, it is said, had not been discovered anywhere in East Asia.

I was surprised when I looked at the harnesses in the Central Public Hall of Ikaruga City, and found in it the ornamental metal fittings of the flap saddle decorated with openwork wave-edged continuous palmet carvings similar to the metal fittings which I had just seen painted on the bracketed ceiling of the Kangso Big Tumulus. On top of that, on an ornamental rim of the saddle, I found peculiar continuous wave-edged arabesque carvings of the kind which I had seen in the Chinpa-ri Tumulus.

The carving can be called the Hekikantasuki pattern which has palmett arabesque foliage carvings on each side of the central ornament.

Hekikantasuki patterns were also seen in the Anak Tumulus No. 3, on the beam above the stone pillar. But it has dragons and tigers on both sides instead of arabesque foliage carvings.

(To be continued)

Sports and Culture

Int'l Boxing

PYONGYANG March 18 (KCNA) – Korean boxers gained good results at the International Boxing Tournament held in Czechoslovakia from March 11 to 16.

Chang Yong Chol finished the winner in the 48 kg category and Chu Myong Chol and Im Song Se the runner-ups respectively in the 51 kg and 54 kg categories.

PYONGYANG March 14 (KCNA) – Korean boxers Chang Yong Chol, Kang Gil Ryong and Chu Myong Chol placed first in the 48 kg category and third respectively in the 48 kg and 51 kg categories at the 15th "Chemiepokal Boxing Tournament" held in the German Democratic Republic.

* * *

Korean player Pak Jong Chol finished runner-up in the 86 kg category at the Liberation Cup International Judo Tournament held in Prague and Kim Chun Ho placed third in the 60 kg category at the 21st "Granite-Hungaria" Cup International Judo Tournament held in Hungary.

Int'l Archery

PYONGYANG March 19 (KCNA) – Korean archer Li Hyo Son snatched the gold with the top 316 points in the women's individual event at the International Archery Contests held in Italy, according to a report.

The spectators were unstinting in their praises each time her arrow hit the bull's eye.

The president of the FITA (the Federation of International Archery) sincerely congratulated Li Hyo Son, saying that Korean archers definitely held a predominant position in archery through the contests.

Int'l Weight Lifting

PYONGYANG March 9 (KCNA) – Korean weight lifter Li Hi Bong finished silver medalist in the total by placing second in the jerk and in the snatch in the 67.5 kg category at the "Friendship Cup" International Weight Lifting Tournament held in Volgograd, the Soviet Union.

Kim Yong Su finished the runner-up in the total by coming second in the jerk and the snatch in the 60 kg category.

Classics of Traditional Korean Medicine

PYONGYANG (KCNA) – Classics of traditional Korean medicine have been translated into the modern Korean language to be widely read among the health workers, scientists and working people.

Traiditional medicine has constantly developed in Korea from thousands of years ago. In this process a large number of classics of traditional Korean medicine saw the light.

Translated editions of "Tongui Pogam," "Uibang Ryuchwi" and "Hyangyak Chipsongbang", the three major classics, have been published.

"Uibang Ryuchwi", an encyclopedia of traditional Korean medicine, consists of 365 volumes, which consummate results of researches into traditional pharmaceuticals and achievements in the development of traditional medicine.

The introduction to the book deals with diagnosis, prescription, administering, fundamentals of medical treatment, etc. and, the classification of its particulars is nearly the same as the modern medical classification, prescribing five viscera, internal treatment, surgery, otorhinolaryngology, dental surgery, dermatology, gynecology, pediatrics, etc. Added to them are the secret of longevity and first-aid treatment and resuscitation.

(Continued on page 7)

National Sports of Korea

The traditional national sports are developing in Korea.

The 22nd nation-wide national sports contests held last year showed the rapid development of national sports.

Every year national sports contests of a nation-wide scale are held and national sports have become major events in the central and local sports contests.

Among the national sports are wrestling, swinging, seesawing, archery and various other events.

Not restricted much by time and place, etc., these events can be held and they suit well the physical characters of Koreans, staunch and agile, and build up courage and boldness.

In particular, wrestling traditional from olden times builds up preservance, fighting spirit and strength. In this sport, two wrestlers struggle, grasping cloths girded around the loins and thigh, to throw the opponent to the ground. This sport is conducted in individual and team events in a soft mat or sand ring with a diametre of about 10 meters, divided into different categories of physical weight.

Swinging and seesawing of women widely known to the world help develop the whole body and build the capacity to maintain balance in the air.

Swinging has been widely popular as one of the folk amusements from the time of the Koguryo dynasty (first century B.C. - 668 A.D.).

Placing is decided by the order in kicking a bell in the air.

In seesawing from the period of the Koryo dynasty (10th century - 14th century), the contestants strive to fly higher and more dexterously within a set time.

This sport is practised in various ways. In particular, in creative seesawing, the two opposing sides vie with each other in exhibiting various stunts, carrying fans, small drums, towels, rings, etc. The contest is spectacular, indeed.

Seesawing enjoys particular popularity in our national traditional acrobatic pieces.

Archery is one of the main national traditional sports.

At the 28th World Archery Championships held in Switzerland, the Korean women team placed second in the team event and our female archer O Gwang Sun came first in individual total at the 9th Asian Games.

Korean girls enjoy playing *Kune*, Korean traditional swinging.

(Continued from page 6)

Introduced in the book of more than 60,000 pages are upwards of 30,000 prescriptions of Korean medicine.

"Tongui Pogam" further perfected the system of traditional Korean medicine.

Consummated and systematized on a high level in the book are the successes and experiences in the development of traditional medicine at home and abroad till the early 17th century. It is an encyclopedia of traditional medicine whose content is rich and accounts are succinct. Expounded in it are 1,212 kinds of medicinal materials, nearly 4,500 prescriptions, many diseases and acupuncture.

"Hyangyak Chipsongbang" outlines successes in the development of traditional Korean medicine till early 15th century. It gives 10,706 prescriptions and 1,479 items of acupuncture for 959 kinds of diseases.

The Korean scientists are developing the medicinal property left behind by the ancestors on the basis of the results of researches into modern medical science.

Food Culture in Korea

(7) SOYBEAN

We can't think of our dietary life without soybeans. In other words, the life of Asians, Koreans, Chinese and Japanese are closely related with soybeans we take in our daily meals.

We take it in various ways as a seasoning in a processed form or as a vegetable.

The origin of soybeans is in the northern part of Korea and the north east region of China (part of ancient Korea). Historical records show soybeans were eaten already in the Period of Three Kingdoms. However, it was in the 19th century that soybeans were recorded in European countries.

In Korea, with a high quality protein content soybeans, called "meat of field", have been actively introduced into the dietary life of the people as a substitute for meat. Especially, for rice-eating people, soybeans make up for the deficiency of protein in their food.

For example, rice is short of lysine, a kind of amino acid which composes protein. So rice and soybeans are complementary to each other, and one gets twice as much nutritions value if they are taken together.

For a long time Koreans have taken it in a processed forms as *Tubu* (bean curd or Tofu), *Twen Jang* (soybean paste or Miso), and soy sauce, or as a vegetable in the form of bean sprouts.

In the former cases, the protein content of soybeans, which the highest protein content of all the other vegetables and animal foods, is mainly utilized.

In the Middle ages, Buddhism also influenced the active introduction of soybeans into Korea. Buddist priests in those days who were severely prohibited from killing and eating animals, searched for other protein sources, which could be substituted for animal protein.

It is recorded that *Tubu* (bean curd) was originally invented in China during the Han era about 2,000 years ago. In Korea, priests who did not eat animal food, tried to eat *Tubu* as often as they could, so it was served at the time of religious services or ceremonies without fail, and this in the case even today.

In the Koryo era, when Buddhism prospered, temples had a great influential power in the country. They organized Po, a kind of guild (cooperative organization), and also contributed to popularizing processed soybean food among the popular masses.

What kind of food can be cited as processed soybean food? As mentioned above in Korea there are two representative seasonings, *Twen Jang* (bean paste,) and *Kan Jang* (soy sauce), both of which are mentioned in the history book "Samguk Sagi" written in the Silla period in 683 together with references to wine, oil, salted fish guts, honey, and venegar. The Japanese also used them as seasoning. When were they introduced into Japan? Records tell that soy sauce was introduced from China to Japan, about the 8th century, A.D., but as for *Twen Jang* (Japanese Miso), there are several theories.

First, it is mentioned in the document of the Nara and Heian periods, that "Miso was from the Koryo dialect of the Korean language and the word "Miso" is also recorded in Korean documents of about the same time.

Second, *Kan Jang* (soy sauce) and *Twen Jang* (Miso) are related to the same stem "Jang".

But in the Japanese, there is no common stem between Shoyu (soy sauce) and Miso. Therefore, it seems to be reasonable to suppose that *Twen Jang* was introduced to Japan from Korea.

Thus, soybeans have been indispensable to the dietary life of the Koreans as a supply source of protein, and at the same time they also are used as vegetables in the form of bean sprouts.

In other words, bean sprouts contain 20–30 mg of vitamine C per 100g, together with vitamine B1, and B2. Europeans take in vitamine C from potatoes.

Potatoes were introduced into Asian countries relatively late. Under severe natural conditions in winter, bean sprouts cultivated indoor have provided Koreans with a fresh vegetable in a very handy way.

Today, Koreans enjoy various kinds of cuisine with bean sprouts, and *Namul* is one of the representative recipes for bean sprouts.

Bean sprouts (see photo), osmund and spinach are most frequently used ingredients for *Namul*, one of the most scrumptious vegetable cuisines in Korea.

NEWS DISPATCH FROM PYONGYANG

DPRK Dels. to Foreign Countries (Mar. 12 - 20)

Mar. 12

* A delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea to attend an international meeting to be held in Libya.
* A delegation of the Korean Democratic Women's Union headed by Kang Jom Suk, General Secretary of its central committee for a visit to Hungary and the GDR.

Mar. 15

* A delegation of lecturers of the Workers' Party of Korea headed by U Dal Ho, Vice Director of Kim Il Sung Higher Party School for a visit to Ethiopia.
* A delegation of the DPRK Foreign Ministry headed by its Vice Minister Chon Jae Hong for a visit to Cuba.
* A delegation of leading officials of local organizations of the Korean-Soviet Friendship Society headed by Kim Gyong Ho, Vice Chairman of the Kangwon Provincial Administration and Economic Guidance Committee and Chairman of the Kangwon Provincial Committee of the Korean-Soviet Friendship Society for a visit to the Soviet Union.
* A delegation of the Korean Democratic Lawyers Association headed by its Vice Chairman Li Song Ho, Vice Chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries for a visit to the Soviet Union.
* A DPRK government trade delegation headed by Pang Tae Ryul, Vice Minister of Foreign Trade to attend the Leipzig International Fair in the GDR.

Mar. 18

* A delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea headed by Hwang Jang Yop, Secretary of the WPK Central Committee for a visit to Portugal.
* A delegation of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK headed by its Vice Chairman Ryo Yon Gu to attend a parliamentary conference of Asian socialist countries to be held in Mongolia.

Mar. 19

* A DPRK Foreign Ministry delegation headed by its Vice Minister Kim Yong Sop for a visit to Central Africa.
* A delegation of the Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries headed by its Vice Chairman O Mun Han for a visit to Indonesia and Thailand.

Mar. 20

* A Rodong Sinmun delegation headed by its Editor-in-Chief Li Song Bok for a visit to China.
* A delegation of the Central Public Prosecutors Office headed by its Director Han Sang Gyu for a visit to China.
* A delegation of the Korean Central News Agency headed by its General Director Chu Hyon Ok to attend the Fourth General Conference of the News Agencies Pool of the Non-Aligned Countries and the 11th Meeting of the Coordinating Committee scheduled in Cuba.

(KCNA)

Seoul Looks Closely at Events in Manila

White drawing striking parallels between south Korea and the Philippines where the strongman Ferdinand E. Marcos was deposed amid the close watch of Seoul, The New York Times said that Seoul "has a far more restrictive environment than the Philippines."

Follow excerpts from the story reprinted by International Herald Tribune dated March 14:

Few outside events have fired the imagination of South Korean political dissidents as much as the fall of Ferdinand E. Marcos in the Philippines. It takes little prodding, sometimes none at all, to set opposition politicians to talking hopefully about how the same sort of lighting might strike here.

"You have many dictatorships in Asia," said Kim Dae Jung, the most prominent anti-government figure. "But only in South Korea and the Philippines do you have people actively seeking democracy. They succeeded in the Philippines, and maybe we will succeed here."

By the same token, few other external events in recent years have so troubled the government and governing party of President Chun Doo Hwan. It is not that Mr. Chun, too, risks being swept from power, his lieutenants insist.

"We worry about over-expectations from the opposition," said Hyun Hong Choo, a spokesman for the governing Democratic Justice Party.

Nevertheless, the specter of the Philippines will not go away.

The South Korean Roman Catholic primate, Cardinal Stephen Kim Sou Hwan, urged Mr. Chun recently to change the country's constitution soon to permit direct presidential elections, as opposition leaders demand. In the process, the cardinal alluded to the recent turmoil in Manila.

"Korea is different from the Philippines," he said, but he then added that the government must first provide proof of this by showing that South Korea is "free of corruption, torture, political oppression, rule by a handful of families and violation of human rights."

In certain respects, political comparisons between South Korea and the Philippines are perhaps inevitable.

In the last year, the people of both countries demonstrated at the ballot box that they have a strong taste for democracy. Both populations, however, have endured long autocratic rule. In both countries, international organizations have protested the torture of political prisoners and other human rights violations.

South Korea and the Philippines also are unusually vulnerable to pressure from the United States, which maintains a large military presence in both and has historical links.

In Mr. Chun's five years as president, there also have been instances of nepotism and cronyism.

Most conspicuously, South Korea has a far more restrictive environment than the Philippines in Mr. Marcos's waning days. The streets of Seoul are filled with soldiers and plainclothesmen who apparently have license to stop anyone they please. South Korean newspapers are far more tightly controlled. Free assembly is little tolerated, and demonstrations often are broken up before they can even begin.

(Continued from page 1)

centrated in the hands of Roh and five or six other party leaders. In the countryside, the party derives its strength mostly from community leaders, such as village heads, civil servants, school teachers and business figures.

Focused so much on the top rung of the community, the DJP has difficulty capturing the hearts and minds of younger voters – between the ages of 20 and 40 – who make up nearly 60% of South Korea's 23 million voters. Support from this relatively liberal bloc of voters has been difficult to attract, apparently because of the party's military background and colouring, and what some voters view as its inflexible attitude towards the opposition and its ambiguous stance on the issue of democratic reforms.

To maintain its organisational strength and discipline, the party keeps its members in training. "We want to create a core group ready for full mobilisation," explained Suh Chong Hwa, deputy director of the DJP's central political training institute. So far, 110,000 core members, working either part- or full-time in the provinces, have been trained through the institute.

During elections and in some other circumstances, the DJP's core members are expected to influence opinion in their communities to the party's benefit or otherwise "guide" its 1.5 million passive members, who account for 6.5% of the nation's voters. The DJP has the largest membership of any party in the country, but few members see themselves as firm adherents to the party platform.

A typical 55-hour training course for a core member consists of 44% discussing party ideology and how to achieve ideological goals; 15% dealing with such issues as national security and reunification, and another 15% participating in panel discussions on state of the nation problems such as maintaining political peace in economic recession, dealing with the opposition and handling student unrest.

The main purpose of the course is to underline two major objectives Chun has set for himself: his stated intention to step down peacefully in 1988, and his desire to successfully host the Seoul Olympic Games in the same year. If South Korea achieves these two objectives, the DJP reasons, it will have propelled itself into the ranks of the world's advanced nations.

But setbacks for the party in last year's election illustrated how difficult it is to sell this dream. The ubiquitous slogan of taking South Korea to the 21st century "by changing people's attitudes" could not rival Park's powerful appeals in the midst of poverty in the 1960s and 1970s to "modernise the fatherland" and "develop the economy."

The party must also struggle with a mountain of commitments left unfulfilled by Park. "We've successfully brought down economic inflation, but not political or cultural inflation," said Kim Hyung Hio, a former philosophy professor who formulates long-term DJP policy. Demands by the nation's young for more political and social plurality, he said, fly in the face of their historical heritage, rooted in Confusion orthodoxy which tends to stress absolute rather than relative values.

In an effort to reconcile this conflict, the party has had to appeal to all sectors of South Korean society, risking the danger of spreading itself too thin. And adding to the difficulty of bringing large numbers of voters into the DJP fold has been the country's recurring political turmoil, punctuated by Park's killing and Chun's subsequent coup, which have revived the ancient practice among the people of avoiding too close an identification with any political movement lest one be caught on the wrong side when things change. As one outside observer put it: "The party, in spite of its imposing appearance, resembles a tree that has a trunk but neither roots nor branches."

S. Korean Opposition Encouraged by the Philippines

Although finding out differences between Seoul and Manila has become a main task of the south Korean authorities these days, they fail to reveal "conspicuous differences" – tight military control over dissent and crowds and the treatment of mass media "which are closely supervised" by them – as noted in an Asian Wall Street Journal report dated March 11:

Here are excerpts from the article, which added, "In fact, it (the opposition's signature campaign) is designed to spark conflict with the government":

South Korea's political opposition is drawing fresh inspiration from the Philippines.

Korean opposition leaders, although divided internally and demoralized by a recent government crackdown on dissent, are smiling again. And they say the victory of Corazon Aquino has encouraged them to redouble efforts to mount a controversial petition campaign here that is considered a threat to the legitimacy of President Chun Doo Hwan's government.

More than anything, the opposition leaders are happy – as well as mildly shocked – that the U.S. backed away from Ferdinand Marcos in the Philippines and cast its lot with Mrs. Aquino.

"I was somewhat surprised," says Kim Dae Jung, one of South Korea's main opposition leaders. "America did a very good job in the Philippines. Without a doubt, we're encouraged."

Comparisons of the Philippine and South Korean political situations have become a staple of conversation here. Despite obvious and striking differences between the two countries – economic, cultural, attitudes of the military – some of the similarities are striking, too. Both the Philippines and South Korea are strategically important to the U.S. Both have major American military bases. Mr. Marcos was – as Mr. Chun is – a strong authoritarian ruler, backed by Washington, unpopular at home, and facing strong opposition movements at once anti-government and anti-communist.

To what extent the average Korean has been moved by events in the Philippines is impossible to say. But a number of ordinary salaried workers in Seoul report that, at social gatherings, there is a vague, if unrealistic, feeling that "this could happen here," says a 35-year-old import-export manager.

The South Korean government is taking pains to point out the differences between South Korea and the Philippines. At the same time, some South Korean government officials admit privately that they were surprised by the strong stand against Mr. Marcos eventually taken by Washington. And while they publicly support the actions of their No. 1 ally, the U.S., some high-level politicians and presidential advisers in Seoul are muttering about American intervention in the internal affairs of its allies.

There is some evidence that the Philippine situation is leading the Chun government toward a more conciliatory stance toward the opposition. The change followed several weeks of harassing political activists over the petition campaign, which calls for an early democratization of South Korea's election process. Police surrounded and sealed off headquarters of the main opposition party, put party leaders under house arrest, and broke up gatherings of suspected petition gatherers.

Recently, however, Mr. Chun reversed course rather abruptly. He invited three opposition leaders to lunch at the Blue House, the presidential compound. He agreed to a revision of South Korea's constitution, in 1989.

New Confrontations?

Student unrest is likely to grow in the weeks ahead, however. Korean campus demonstrations are a rite of spring. The opposition's signature campaign also could spark renewed confrontations. In fact, it is designed to spark conflict with the government.

Mr. Kim, the opposition leader, says his strategy is to step up the signature campaign, then demand that the government "obey the wishes of the people" by changing the constitution. When the government refuses, "We begin peaceful, nonviolent demonstrations at the National Assembly and elsewhere. We are prepared to go to prison or be put under house arrest," Mr. Kim says.

Behind the petition campaign and the constitutional amendment is a basic struggle for power, and specifically for the power to run South Korea after Mr. Chun's term of office expires in 1988. The current constitution, with its indirect electoral process, probably would allow Mr. Chun to pick his successor in 1988, and perhaps to retain power. What the opposition wants would bring direct presidential election and could catapult Mr. Kim or another opposition leader into the presidency.

That is why the Chun government regards the petition campaign as dangerous, quite distinct from the garden-variety signature campaigns conducted outside supermarkets on Saturday afternoons.

A Western political observer says there is an iron law of Korean politics: Confrontation drives out compromise.

In popular voting for National Assembly elections in early 1985, opposition party candidates outpolled Mr. Chun's ruling party candidates in almost all districts of South Korea.

A Military Man

In large part, Mr. Chun is unpopular because he came to office by grabbing power in a 1980 military coup, then rewrote the nation's constitution, holding an "election" in 1981 that was little more than a show. A former army general, he has surrounded himself with several other former military men. This strong connection with – and control over – the military is another distinction between South Korea and the last days of the Marcos regime.

The tight military control over dissent and over crowds makes huge popular rallies such as occurred in the Philippines an almost unthinkable occurrence in South Korea. At the height of last month's crackdown on opposition parties, for example, even small gatherings of activists were broken up by police. Police, uniformed or in plain clothes, are an ever-present element of street life in Seoul.

Another difference is the treatment of newspapers and broadcast media, which operated rather freely in the final days of the Marcos regime but which are closely supervised, if not actually controlled, by Chun government bureaucrats.

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